

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD

## PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT



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Commissioners:
John Sharland, Chairman
Ann Motyka, Vice Chairman/Secretary
Michael F. Valenti
John Kenney
Thomas Reynolds

Ross Rossetti – Superintendent/Pilot Matthew McPhee - Asst. Superintendent Ellen Bidlack – Entomologist Denise DeLuca – Administrative Assistant

## COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES May 26, 2022

On Thursday, May 26, 2022, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at the Project building. In attendance were Commissioners Sharland, Motyka, Valenti, and Reynolds. Commissioner Kenney was not present. Employees present: Ross Rossetti, Superintendent/Pilot and Matt McPhee, Assistant Superintendent.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharland at 9:37am.

Public Comment/Input- There was no public comment.

Vote to approve April 28, 2022 Minutes- By roll call vote, the minutes were unanimously approved as written.

<u>COLA and Step Increases</u>; <u>FY23</u>- Ross presented the approved FY23 budget and proposed COLA numbers. A motion to accept the COLA of 5% and step increases for full time Project employees was accepted by Commissioner Reynolds and seconded by Commissioner Valenti. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

<u>Public Outreach Activities:</u> The Middleborough Girl Scouts visited the Project on April 28th. Ellen and Denise used a variety of hands-on and visual activities and educated the Scouts on safe mosquito practices to share with their friends and families for the upcoming summer months. Pictures of this visit may be available by next month's Commissioners meeting on June 16. 'Mosquito Mayhem' was held at Cape Cod Community College on May 24. Ross and Ellen, along with Bristol County Mosquito Control Project Superintendent Priscilla Matton and Entomologist Todd Duval, met with the Taunton River Watershed Alliance on May 26. The Projects explained what they do and discussed EEE and use of EPA registered repellents.

Assistant Superintendent's Report-Field Work Summary: Matt reports that the field techs and the spray trucks are ready for the spray season. On Friday, May 27, the crew will be planning to arrive early to do a dry run in preparation. For the month, the crew collected 27 tires. The Project received 84 called-in service requests for water checks. Machine digging completed 700 feet on Johnson Terrace in Marshfield. The crew completed 2,570 water inspections resulting in 549 treatments.

Superintendent's Review of Project Operations: Ross reports that there were 850 spray requests called in during the first week; 550 on the first day. The truck-mounted spray units, purchased from Clark, are ready for

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the spray season. The machines are properly calibrated and the droplet size appropriate. The airplane engine has been removed. The new engine is currently in route.

The State Reclamation Board approved the Project's level-funded budget for FY23 on May 16.

Plymouth County Mosquito Control and the other state projects will be creating and submitting a proposal to the office of the Energy and Environmental Affairs for the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles(drone). Currently there is no policy for the Projects from MDAR. The Project would be using a UAV for photographing hard or impossible-to-reach areas of concern in the county.

Aerial Larviciding: Ross and the Project plane were able to treat designated sites in Plymouth and Bristol Counties with the liquid larvicide Vectobac 12AS. A total of 14,223.8 acres were treated in the 12 days of spraying. Plymouth County had 11,329.8 acres treated and Bristol County had 2,894 acres treated.

Entomologist Summary- Adult Surveillance and Seasonal Assistant Updates: (Ross submitting Ellen's report) Results of adult trapping have been low due to cold and dry conditions. On a weekly basis Ellen has coordinated Tuesdays as the day to get the mosquito collections to the DPH in Jamaica Plain On May 23, the Project hired Julia Cheesman, an Environmental Science major, as Ellen's seasonal assistant.

<u>Date</u>, <u>Time</u>, <u>Location of next Commission Meeting</u>- Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 9:30am. Meeting will be held at the Project headquarters, 272 South Meadow Road, Plymouth. It will also have a ZOOM option.

Meeting adjourned at 10:37am.

Respectively submitted,

Ann Motyka

Commissioner/Vice-Chairman/Secretary Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

Documents that accompanied this agenda: May 2022 Meeting Agenda 2022 Aerial Larviciding Summary

FY23 Pay Scale

FY23 Employee Pay Rates